

REMARKS

This Amendment is fully responsive to the non-final Office Action dated September 11, 2007, issued in connection with the above-identified application. A petition for a one-month extension of time accompanies this Amendment. Claims 1-9 were previously pending in the application. With this Amendment, claims 2, 3 and 6-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein; and claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 4 and 5 are all the claims presently pending in the application. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

To facilitate the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application, the Applicant has amended the specification and abstract. The changes to the specification and abstract include minor editorial and clarifying changes. A substitute specification and abstract are included. Marked-up copies of the original specification and abstract are included. No new matter has been added by the changes made to the specification and abstract.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-6 and 9 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Honma (U.S. Patent No. 6,876,389, hereafter "Honma"). The Applicant has canceled claims 3 and 6-9 thereby rendering the above rejection to those claims moot.

Additionally, the Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 4 and 5 to further distinguish the present invention over Honma. For example, as amended claim 1 recites, in relevant part, the following:

"A print system comprising: ...

a display data generator that generates display data from the thumbnail data and a preview icon to be selected when the print image is checked, wherein said display data generator generates a preview image to be displayed when the preview icon is selected...." (Emphasis added).

The features emphasized above in independent claim 1 are similarly recited in independent claims 4 and 5. Additionally, these features of claims 1, 4 and 5 are fully supported

by the Applicant's disclosure (see e.g., Figs. 3 and 4; pg. 9, line 17-pg. 10, line 4; and pg. 15, lines 16-19).

The present invention, as recited in claims 1, 4 and 5, is directed to facilitating a print system capable of acquiring a print image with checking the print layout of image data (i.e., by selecting a preview icon and generating a preview image to be displayed when the preview icon is selected). A print system can be facilitated in checking the print layout of image data even when a receiver in the print system is not equipped with a printer driver. No such feature is disclosed or suggested by Honma.

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Honma at col. 2, lines 31-33; and col. 3 for disclosing all the features of the claimed "display data generator" of claims 1, 4 and 5.

However, as amended, claims 1, 4 and 3 are directed to a display data generator that generates display data from the thumbnail data and a preview icon to be selected when the print image is checked, wherein the display data generator generates a preview image to be displayed when the preview icon is selected.

Conversely, Honma at col. 2, lines 31-33 describes the printer system illustrated in Fig. 1. As described in Honma, the printer system of Fig. 1 includes, in relevant part, a printer controller 103, a television receiver 104, and a printer 105. The printer controller 103 reads an image stored on a memory card 102, and controls the output of image data. Specifically, the television receiver (TV) is connected to the printed controller 103, and is controlled to display the image data; and the printer 105 is connected to the printer controller 103, and is controlled to print the image data.

Honma at col. 3 describes a formation method for display image data, which includes the use of thumbnail images. As described in col. 3 of Honma, the information regarding the aspect ratio of a thumbnail image and a main image is obtained, and then compared. If the images (thumbnail and main images) are the same, the thumbnail image is used as the display image data without modification. However, if the images (thumbnail and main images) are different, one of the following occurs: 1) the main image is used as the display image data or 2) the thumbnail image is modified (e.g., clipping process). (See col. 3, lines 18-48).

In summary, Honma at col. 2, lines 31-33 discloses a printer system that is merely capable of outputting image data; and Honma at col. 3 discloses the use of thumbnail images to display an image that is more representative of the main image.

Therefore, nothing in Honma appears to disclose or suggest a display data generator that generates display data from the thumbnail data and a preview icon to be selected when the print image is checked, wherein the display data generator generates a preview image to be displayed when the preview icon is selected, as in claims 1, 4 and 5 (as amended).

Based on the foregoing, independent claims 1, 4 and 5 (as amended) are clearly not anticipated or rendered obvious by Honma.

In the Office Action, claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Crosby et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,870,547, hereafter “Crosby”). Additionally, claim 2 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma in view of Crosby. However, claims 2, 7 and 8 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejections noted above to claims 2, 7 and 8 are moot.

In light of the above, the Applicant respectfully submits that all the pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections presented in the Office Action dated October 11, 2007, and pass this application to issue.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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